Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A method for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising the steps of:

searching a computer network for at least one network accessible printer, which network accessible printer is accessible by the client machine via a direct, dedicated connection ~~through~~ between the printer and an associated server;

selecting at least one network accessible printer located by an associated user;

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected network accessible printer;

retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one network accessible printer selected by the user;

storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected network accessible printer via the direct, dedicated connection.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from an associated print server.

3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

5. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

6. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 5, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

7. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step further comprises storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

8. (Currently amended)   A system for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising:

means adapted for searching a computer network for at least one <u>network accessible</u> printer , which network accessible <u>printer is accessible</u> by the client machine via <u>a direct, dedicated</u> connection through between the printer and an associated server;

means adapted for selecting at least one <u>network</u> accessible printer located by an associated user;

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected <u>network accessible</u> printer;

means adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one <u>network</u> accessible printer selected by the user;

means adapted for storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

means adapted for mapping a port from the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated

therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer <u>via the direct, dedicated connection</u>.

9. (Original)   The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for downloading an associated printer driver from a print server.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

12. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

13. (Previously Presented)   The system of 12, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

14. (Currently amended)   The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

15. (Currently amended)   A computer-implemented for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising the steps of:

searching a computer network for at least one<u> network accessible</u> printer<u>, which network</u> accessible <u>printer is accessible </u>by the client machine via a <u>direct, dedicated </u>connection <s>through between the printer and </s>an associated server;

selecting at least one <u>network</u> accessible printer located by an associated user;

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected <u>network accessible</u> printer;

retrieving a network address corresponding to at least one network accessible printer selected by a user;

storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected network accessible printer via the direct, dedicated connection.

16. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, further comprising the step of downloading a printer driver from a print server.

17. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, further comprising the step of exporting a function to the printer driver.

18. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

19. (Original) The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

20. (Original) The computer-implemented method of 19, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internetwork Packet Exchange protocol.

21. (Currently amended)   The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the storing step further comprises storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

22. (Currently amended)   A computer-readable medium for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to a print server, comprising:

means adapted for searching a computer network for at least one <u>network accessible</u> printer<u>, which network</u> accessible <u>printer is accessible</u> by the client machine via a<u> direct, dedicated</u> connection ~~through~~ <u>between the printer</u> an associated server;

means adapted for selecting at least one <u>network</u> accessible printer located by an associated user;

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected <u>network accessible</u> printer;

means adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one <u>network</u> accessible printer selected by the user;

means adapted for storing the network address, corresponding identifier data, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine; and

means adapted for mapping a port from the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine in accordance with the value table, wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication with the at least one selected <u>network</u> accessible printer<u> via the direct, dedicated connection</u>.

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for downloading a printer driver from a print server.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address.

26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address.

27. (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium of 26, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol.

28. (Currently amended)   The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine.

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